

What is claimed is:

1. A method in a data processing system for accessing network services associated with a lookup service, comprising the steps of:

receiving a request by the lookup service for access to one of the network services; and

returning code to facilitate the access of the one network service.
2. The method of claim 1, further including the step of:

accessing the network service using the returned code.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of returning the code includes the step of:

returning a stub.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of returning the code includes the step of:

returning a smart proxy.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the receiving step includes the step of:

receiving the request to access the one network service such that the one network service is identified by a type of service.

10. A method in a data processing system having a lookup service with a plurality of services, the method comprising the steps of:

sending to the lookup service a request to access one of the services; and
receiving code, responsive to the request, that facilitates use of the one service.

11. The method of claim 10, further including the step of:
accessing the one service using the received code.

12. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of receiving code includes the step of:
receiving a stub that facilitates access of the one service.

13. The method of claim 10, wherein the step of receiving code includes the step of:
receiving a smart proxy that facilitates access of the one service.

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14. A method in a data processing system having a first computer with a client and a second computer with a lookup service containing service stubs used for accessing associated services, the method comprising the steps of:

5 sending a request by the client to the lookup service identifying one of the associated services to be accessed;

receiving the request by the lookup service;

searching the lookup service for the identified service;

returning the service stub associated with the identified service to the client;

receiving the service stub by the client;

loading the service stub into an address space of the client to render the service stub available for use to invoke the identified service; and

using the stub by the client to access the identified service.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the sending step includes the step of:

sending a request for more than one service to be returned, and wherein the returning step further includes the step of:

returning more than one stub to the client in response to the request.

16. The method of claim 14, wherein the searching step includes the step of:

returning a null value if no service is found matching the request.

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17. A distributed system with a plurality of network services, comprising:

a server computer with a lookup service having stubs for facilitating access to the network services; and

a client computer with a program that sends a request to the lookup service for one of the stubs corresponding to one of the network services, that receives the stub, and that accesses the one network service using the received stub.

18. The distributed system of claim 17, wherein the client computer utilizes a remote procedure call mechanism to receive the stub.

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19. A system having a first computer with a client and a second computer with a lookup service containing service stubs used for accessing associated services, the system comprising:

means for sending a request by the client to the lookup service identifying one of the associated services to be accessed;

means for receiving the request by the lookup service;

means for searching the lookup service for the identified service;

means for returning the service stub associated with the identified service to the client;

means for receiving the service stub by the client;

means for loading the service stub into an address space of the client to render the service stub available for use to invoke the identified service; and

means for using the stub by the client to access the identified service.

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20. A computer-readable medium containing instructions for controlling a data processing system to perform a method for accessing network services contained in a lookup service, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a request by the lookup service for access to one of the network services; and
returning code to facilitate the access of the one network service.

21. The computer-readable medium of claim 20, wherein the method further includes the step of:

accessing the network service using the returned code.

22. The computer-readable medium of claim 20, wherein the returning step includes the step of:

returning a stub.

23. The computer-readable medium of claim 20, wherein the returning step includes the step of:

returning a smart proxy.

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24. A computer-readable medium containing instructions for controlling a data processing system to perform a method for accessing network services contained in a lookup service, the method comprising the steps of:

sending to the lookup service a request to access one of the services; and
receiving code, responsive to the request, that facilitates use of the one service.

25. The computer-readable medium of claim 24, wherein the method further includes the step of:

accessing the one service using the received code.

26. The computer-readable medium of claim 24, wherein the step of receiving code includes the step of:

receiving a stub that facilitates access of the one service.

27. The computer-readable medium of claim 24, wherein the step of receiving code includes the step of:

receiving a smart proxy that facilitates access of the one service.